

Amendments to the Abstract:

~~The present invention provides for plant~~ Plant extracts and dermatological formulations comprising one or more plant extracts that are capable of inhibiting one or more extracellular proteases selected from the group of: matrix metalloprotease-1 (MMP-1), matrix metalloprotease-2 (MMP-2), matrix metalloprotease-3 (MMP-3), matrix metalloprotease-9 (MMP-9) and human leukocyte elastase (HLE). ~~The present invention further provides for a~~ A rapid method for screening plant extracts to identify those having the above activity that are suitable for incorporation into the dermatological formulations of the invention. ~~The invention also provides for the~~ The use of the plant extracts as dermatological agents suitable for the treatment or prevention of various dermatological conditions, including wrinkling or sagging of the skin, irradiation induced skin and/or hair damage, deepening of skin lines, elastotic changes in the skin, as well as for the routine care of the skin, hair and/or nails.